ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 4 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

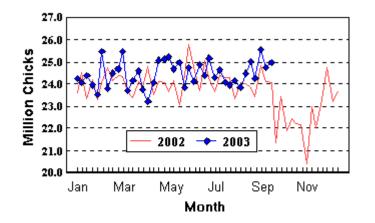
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 25.0 million during the week ending September 27, 2003. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week in 2002, and up 1 percent from the previous week, and included 2.8 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through September 27, 2003 were 954.0 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.3 million, up 4 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 2 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.0 percent.

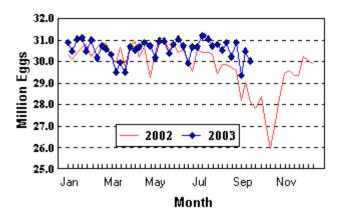
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.0 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending September 27, 2003, up 7 percent from the same period last year, but down 1 percent from the previous week.

	NET I	PLACEME	NTS	CHIC	KS HATC	HED	EGGS SET			
Week Ending	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	
	1,0	000		1,	000		1,000			
Aug. 23	23,997	24,485	102	24,832	25,399	102	29,869	30,884	103	
Aug. 30	23,880	25,015	105	24,211	25,387	105	29,734	30,223	102	
Sep. 6	23,428	24,254	104	24,472	25,164	103	29,592	30,875	104	
Sep. 13	24,831	25,581	103	24,573	25,531	104	28,201	29,368	104	
Sep. 20	24,113	24,721	103	24,474	24,763	101	29,050	30,458	105	
Sep. 27	24,044	24,992	104	24,459	25,337	104	28,177	30,013	107	

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET, 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKSPLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending					Week Ending						1/
STATE	06-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep	%	23-Aug	30-Aug	06-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep	%
Alabama	29,240	27,938	27,565	27,391	101	22,084	21,871	22,012	21,482	21,970	21,676	102
ARKANSAS	30,875	29,368	30,458	30,013	107	24,485	25,015	24,254	25,581	24,721	24,992	104
Delaware	3,792	3,561	3,327	3,479	109	4,741	5,302	5,213	5,784	4,644	4,831	106
Florida	1,357	1,329	1,345	1,369	59	1,727	1,722	1,831	2,056	1,691	1,766	80
Georgia	30,981 *	31,062 *	30,901	30,697	107	25,331	26,162	25,074	25,937	25,475 *	24,745	94
Kenticky	6,306 *	5,625	5,888 *	6,168	95	6,050 *	5,810	5,862 *	5,896 *	5,475 *	5,364	107
Maryland	8,869	8,371	8,118	8,411	91	6,508	5,718	5,287	5,293	6,614	5,378	98
Mississippi	18,686	18,024	17,534	17,357	100	16,415	16,247	16,396	16,168	15,577	15,904	104
N. Carolina	16,317 *	16,229	15,632	17,488	100	14,217	13,924	14,098	13,977	13,226	13,000	92
Oklahoma	6,338	6,553	6,356	5,651	141	4,325	4,297	4,346	4,406	4,273	4,574	119
Pennsylvania	3,658	3,544 *	3,454	3,491	99	2,729	2,741	2,741	2,753 *	2,677	2,687	96
S. Carolina	4,681	4,539 *	4,482	4,413	94	4,213	4,009	4,203	4,183 *	4,584 *	3,806	109
Texas	14,647	14,002	13,021	14,362	95	11,961	11,959	11,891	12,079	12,164	12,192	103
Virginia	6,024	6,108	6,072	6,391	105	5,190	5,071	5,927	5,450	4,979	5,231	97
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	18,662	<u>19,580</u>	19,341 *		104	18,602	<u>18,727</u>	18 <u>,327</u> _	<u> 18,180</u>	17 <u>,426</u> *		<u>8</u> 7.
Total 2003	200,433 *	195,833 *	193,494 *	196,028		168,578 *	168,575	167,462 *	169,225 *	165,496 *	163,230	
<u>Total 2002</u>	203,517	<u>191,797</u>	189,744	1 <u>91,851</u>		168,773	166,470	<u>167,094</u>	1 <u>66,3</u> 40_	165,465	165,235	
%Prev. Year	98	102	102	102		100	101	100	102	100	99	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003												

^{*} Revised. If Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 196 million eggs during the week ending September 27, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 163 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 27, 2003. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through September 27, 2003 were 6.55 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.